REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner's Action of May 18, 2005, has been received and reviewed by counsel for Assignee. In that Action claims 1-12 were presented for examination and were rejected.

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed towards non-statutory subject matter. They were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to conform with current U.S. practice. The claims were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,868,397 to *McCaslin*, in view of U.S. Patent 5,574,380 to *Dubin* and a patent application to *Avery*.

By this response counsel has canceled all pending claims and submits new claims 14-25. These new claims have been rewritten in a manner believed to overcome the Section 101 and Section 112 rejections. In particular, the claims now call for a method of controlling a reply to an order for a transformer in which a customer terminal, sales department server and a measurement department server are coupled through a public network. The new claims also have been written in a manner believed to now conform with U.S. practice, and for the reasons below are believed to patentably distinguish the cited references.

The present invention relates to a system where upon receipt of orders relating to replacement of transformers, the installation date of a measuring circuit for the transformer is determined. After receiving that information, another response is sent to the customer to inform them of the installation date. The benefit of the invention is that it enables transformers which reduce energy consumption and provide beneficial environment effects to be implemented.

The *McCaslin* '397 patent describes a system generally for managing inventories of equipment. The system is said to enable efficient effective tracking of inventories. As such it is a more generalized data processing type of system than described in Applicants' claimed invention.

In contrast, claim 14 as now presented for examination relates to not just orders for goods, but replacements of a transformer and, in particular, for determining the installation date of a measuring circuit applied to the transformer for measuring its performance. The claim requires a customer terminal, sales department server and a

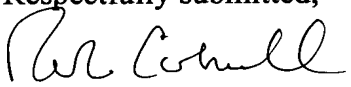
measurement department server to be coupled through a public network. Upon access by a customer terminal, the sales department server and the measurement department server determine an appropriate message to send back to the customer relating to the installation date of the measuring circuit applied to the transformer at the customer location, and then upon receipt of a reply from that customer terminal, a second message is sent which includes the installation date of the measuring circuit. The customer inquiry is typically instituted by an inquiry over a network (for example, the internet), and the system triggers the sending of email messages as appropriate. *McCaslin* does not teach this technique, and does not teach sending information back to the customer about the installation date of a measurement circuit for the transformer.

The other references relied upon by the Examiner relate to measuring circuits for transformers, and do not supply this missing teaching.

Each of the newly-presented independent claims 14, 17, 19, 21 and 24 are similarly limited, and for that reason each of these claims is believed to patentably distinguish the cited references. All of the remaining claims presented for examination depend from one or another of these independent claims and are believed patentable for at least that reason.

In view of the foregoing, counsel for Assignee believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-324-6303 (direct).

Respectfully submitted,



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